

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that the United States has reached a settlement agreement with Tender Care Transport, Inc., a business operating in the Eau Claire, Wis. area, involving allegations that during the period from August 2003 to April 2006, Tender Care submitted claims to Medicaid for non-emergency transport when drivers sent out on runs had not yet obtained their required CPR certification.

In order to resolve this matter, Tender Care has agreed to pay the United States \$39,487.52 within thirty days of the settlement agreement. The Settlement Agreement includes a provision stating that the agreement does not constitute an admission of liability by Tender Care, nor does the United States concede that its claims are not well founded.

Wisconsin Medicaid rules require each driver of a specialized medical vehicle to receive training in Basic Red Cross or equivalent training in first aid and CPR, and shall also receive specific instructions on care of passengers in seizure. The rule further states that each driver shall receive refresher training in first aid at least every three years and shall maintain CPR certification.

The United States' investigation revealed that Tender Care was not in compliance with respect to certain drivers because they had not completed their CPR certification before driving. Tender Care's failure to obtain CPR certification for some of its drivers resulted in Medicaid being improperly billed for services because federal law requires compliance with state laws in order to seek reimbursement.

The case against Tender Care was based on an investigation by the Department of Health and Human Services - Office of Inspector General. Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Ehlke handled the civil investigation of this matter.

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